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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/021,313	12/19/2001	David J.P. Baar	3121183.0019	9388

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EXAMINER
HARRISON, CHANTE E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2672	6

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/021,313	BAAR ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chante Harrison	2672	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 December 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-31* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-31* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4 & 5*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which

papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public
use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United
States.

1.   Claims 1-21, 23-24 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Robertson, et al, U.S. Patent 5,670,984, 9/1997.

As per independent claim 1, Robertson discloses a improved method for display

of a transitional region of interest while transitioning between a first region of interest

and a second region of interest within visual information on a display screen of a

computer, said method comprising the steps of: applying a transitional transformation

to said visual information (Figs. 4 & 8), said transitional transformation requiring

reduced calculations for transforming said visual information to transitional transformed

visual information (col. 6, ll. 35-41; col. 8, ll. 23-27); and displaying said transitional

transformed visual information on said display screen (col. 6, ll. 45-50; Figs. 2 & 8).

As per dependent claim 2, Robertson discloses said transitional transformation

reduces calculations by transforming only a portion of said visual information in said

transitional region of interest (col. 3, ll. 45-47; Fig. 4).

As per dependent claims 3 and 11, Robertson discloses said portion of said visual information in said transitional region of interest is a border of said transitional region of interest (i.e. thick border region surrounding the region of interest) (Fig. 8).

As per dependent claims 4 and 12, Robertson discloses said portion of said visual information in said transitional region of interest is a periphery of said transitional region of interest (i.e. columns adjacent the region of interest are peripheral to the region) (Fig. 8).

As per dependent claims 5 and 19, Robertson discloses said step of applying a transitional transformation further comprises the steps of: creating an intermediary lens surface having a predetermined shape for said transitional region of interest (col. 7, ll. 31-41); and creating said transitional transformed visual information by overlaying said visual information on said transitional lens surface (col. 5-6, ll. 65-1) and projecting said lens surface with said overlaid visual information onto a plane (col. 6, ll. 2).

As per dependent claim 6, Robertson discloses said predetermined shape of said transitional lens surface is defined by a predetermined portion of a first lens surface for rendering said first region of interest (i.e. the lens shape, e.g. length and/or width, is

determined by the region of interest and the lens position relative to the distance of

other image planes) (col. 6, ll. 35-50; col. 7, ll. 31-41).

As per dependent claim 7, Robertson discloses said predetermined portion is a

border of said first lens surface (i.e. thick border region surrounding the region of

interest) (Fig. 8).

As per dependent claim 8, Robertson discloses said predetermined portion is a

periphery of said first lens surface (i.e. columns adjacent the region of interest are

peripheral to the region) (Fig. 8).

As per indpendent claim 9, Robertson disclseos a method for displaying the transition

between regions of interest within visual information on a display screen of a computer,

said method comprising the steps of: selecting a first region of interest within said

visual information; applying a first transformation to said visual information to improve

the visual detail in said first region of interest (Fig. 9; col. 11, ll. 5-10); and, displaying

said first transformed visual information on said display screen (Fig. 2); selecting a

second region of interest within said visual information (Fig. 9 "510"); applying a

second transformation to said visual information to improve the visual detail in said

second region of interest (col. 11,ll. 8-12); and, displaying said second transformed

visual information on said display screen (Fig. 2); and, selecting a transitional region of

interest on a path between said first region of interest and said second region of

interest within said visual information (i.e. user selection of lens movement and

application of lens sizing and movement commands) (col. 11, II. 11-16); applying a

transitional transformation to said visual information to improve the visual detail in a

predetermined portion of said transitional region of interest (col. 12, II. 2-10); and,

displaying said transitional transformed visual information on said display screen (Fig.

2).

As per dependent claim 10, Robertson discloses selecting said path between

said first region of interest and said second region of interest (i.e. the movement of the

lens over the image) (col. 6, II. 40-45).

As per independent claim 13, Robertson discloses a method for displaying visual

information on a display screen of a computer, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting a region of interest within said visual information; applying a transformation

to said visual information for improving visual detail and presentation quality in said

region of interest (i.e. improving display of a region by displaying the region in detail

with a modified resolution) (Figs. 4 & 8; col. 5, II. 55-65), said transformation for

overlaying said visual information on a lens surface (i.e. transforming the image onto a

3D truncated pyramid corresponds to overlaying the image onto the display plane

having a focus lens) (col. 5-6, II.66-2), said lens surface having predetermined shape

for said region of interest (i.e. defined height, width and dimensions in x, y and z) (col.

7,II. 30-40; col. 8, II. 59-62); projecting said lens surface with said overlaid visual information onto a plane (col. 6, II. 2); increasing resolution of said visual information in said region of interest (Fig. 8); decreasing resolution of said visual information outside said region of interest (i.e. image portions adjacent the region of interest are displayed in varied degrees of detail) (col. 8, II. 15-21); and displaying said transformed visual information on said display screen (Fig. 2).

As per dependent claim 14, Robertson discloses the method provides a smooth transition to said region of interest from an adjacent region (col. 6, II. 40-45; col. 7, II. 43-45), said smooth transition resulting from blending said increased and said decreased resolution visual information in predefined regions adjacent to said region of interest (col. 8, II. 15-21).

As per dependent claim 15, Robertson discloses said step of blending is accomplished by averaging said increased and said decreased resolution visual information (i.e. displaying the adjacent regions next to the region of interest by varying the level of detail of the resolution of each to create a smooth/averaged display transformation) (col. 10, II.10-16, 33-38).

As per dependent claim 16, Robertson said step of blending is accomplished by admixing said increased and said decreased resolution visual information (i.e. displaying the region of interest in one font and the adjacent region in another font,

such that the fonts are mixed to provide the appearance of motion of the lens) (col. 8, ll. 50-61).

As per independent claim 17, Robertson discloses a data carrier having stored thereon instructions for improving display.... (Fig. 2); and implementing the method of claim 1. Therefore the rationale applied in the rejection of claim 1 applies herein.

As per independent claim 18,Robertson discloses scaling said visual information to produce a scaled representation to fit on said display screen (i.e. an original image transformed/scaled using an image lens) (Fig. 9; col. 11, ll. 5-8) said scaled representation containing the entire content of said visual information (Fig. 9 "510"); selecting a region of interest within said scaled representation (i.e. selection of a nested lens) (Fig. 9 "520"); applying a transformation to said scaled representation to improve the visual detail in said region of interest (col. 11, ll. 8-16); and displaying said transformed representation on said display screen (Fig. 2).

As per dependent claim 19, Robertson discloses creating a lens surface of predetermined shape for said region of interest (i.e. the lens is shaped/sized according to user specification) (col. 11, ll. 14-16); and creating a transformed representation by overlaying said scaled representation on said lens surface (Fig. 9 "510 & 520") and projecting said lens surface with said overlaid scaled representation onto a plane (Fig. 9 "500").

As per dependent claim 20, Robertson discloses said region of interest, said lens surface, and said lens surface shape include a plurality of regions of interest, a plurality of lens surfaces, and a plurality of lens surface shapes, respectively (i.e. a nested lens within a lensed image) (Fig. 9).

As per dependent claim 21, Robertson fails to specifically disclose said visual information is selected from the group consisting of newspapers, magazines, telephone directories, and maps. However it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to incorporate selecting visual information from the group consisting of newspapers, magazines, telephone directories, and maps because Robertson discloses the visual information could be a map or a text document (col. 1, II. 29-30) having multiple pages (col. 7, II. 64-67). Thus, because a magazines, newspapers and telephone directories are documents having pages of text content the multi-page/line document of Robertson could be any document having content as does magazines, newspapers, maps and phone directories.

As per dependent claim 23, Robertson fails to specifically disclose said display screen is contained in a handheld device. However it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to incorporate the display screen in a handheld device with the disclosure of Robertson because Robertson teaches the display system may be any display in any computer system

As per dependent claim 24, Robertson fails to specifically disclose said visual information is a newspaper page. However it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to incorporate a newspaper page as visual information with the disclosure of Robertson because Robertson discloses the visual information could be a text document (col. 1, ll. 29-30) having multiple pages (col. 7, ll. 64-67). Thus, because a newspaper is a document having multiple pages the multi-page document of Robertson could be a newspaper.

As per independent claim 31, Robertson discloses a method as claimed in claim 18. Therefore the rationale applied in the rejection of claim18 applies herein.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 22 and 25-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Robertson as applied to claim 18 above, and further in view of Tognazzini et al.,

U.S. Patent 5,731,805, 3/1998.

As per dependent claim 22, Robertson fails to specifically disclose said visual

information includes web page content, which Tognazzini discloses (col. 8, ll. 25-30).

Tognazzini teaches magnifying an area of interest of an image, e.g. newspaper, based

on user selection. Robertson teaches modifying the resolution, e.g. magnification, of a

portion of a viewed image as selected by a user. It would have been obvious to one of

skill in the art to incorporate Tognazzini's disclosure of visual information including web

content with the disclosure of Robertson because Robertson teaches retrieving visual

information (Fig. 2) and suggests transmitting the displayable visual information from

one system to another (col. 2, ll. 14-20).

As per dependent claim 25, Robertson fails to specifically disclose said

newspaper page includes a plurality of headlines, columns, articles, graphics, and

advertisements, which Tognazzini discloses (col. 5,ll. 15-20; Figs. 8 & 16).   It would

have been obvious to one of skill in the art to incorporate Tognazzini's newspaper page

including a plurality of headlines, columns, articles, graphics, and advertisements with

the disclosure of Robertson because Robertson teaches selecting visual information

that is any of a text document, a map or graph (col. 1,ll. 29-30), where text documents

include items such as titles/headlines, columns, advertisements and articles and maps

and graphs include graphics. Therefore, a document having content may have any of

a plurality of headlines, columns, articles, graphics, and advertisements.

As per dependent claim 26, Robertson fails to specifically disclose said region of

interest is selected from the group consisting of a headline, a column, an article, a

graphic, and an advertisement, which Tognazzini discloses (col. 5,ll. 15-20; Figs. 8 &

16). It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to incorporate Tognazzini's

selection from the group consisting of a headline, a column, an article, a graphic, and

an advertisement with the disclosure of Robertson because Robertson teaches

selecting visual information that is any of a text document, a map or graph (col. 1,ll. 29-

30), where text documents include selectable scalable content (Fig. 4), which may

include titles/headlines, columns, advertisements and articles; and maps and graphs

include graphics. Therefore, a document having content may have any of a plurality of

headlines, columns, articles, graphics, and advertisements.

As per dependent claim 27, Robertson in view of Tognazzini discloses said lens surface shape includes the shape of said region of interest (Fig. 8; col. 6, ll. 54-56).

As per dependent claim 28, Robertson in view of Tognazzini discloses said lens surface shape is a column (Fig. 8).

As per dependent claim 29, Robertson in view of Tognazzini discloses said lens surface functions to increase the font size within a portion of said column (i.e. the lens shows the image portion of the document in detail) (Fig. 8).

As per dependent claim 30, Robertson in view of Tognazzini discloses said lens surface shape is tapered to

provide a continuous transition on either side of said portion of said column to

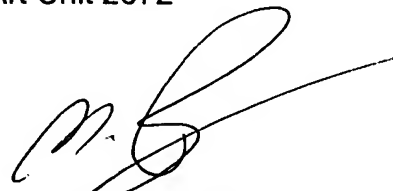unmagnified text (Fig. 8; col. 8, ll. 17-21).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chante Harrison whose telephone number is 703-305-3937. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mike Razavi can be reached on 703-305-4713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chante Harrison
Examiner
Art Unit 2672

March 16, 2004

MICHAEL RAZAVI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600